

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ernie Fletcher Governor Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 Phone (502) 564-3350 www.environment.ky.gov LaJuana S. Wilcher Secretary

September 7, 2006

Lindell Ormsbee, Chair Environmental Quality Commission 14 Reilly Road Frankfort, KY 40601

RE: Proposed UST Regulations

Dear Mr. Ormsbee:

The Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet offers the following response to your letter dated July 24, 2006 outlining the recommendation of adoption of the proposed UST regulations.

The Cabinet understands the concerns regarding the diversion of funds from the Petroleum Storage Tank Environmental Assurance Fund (PSTEAF), and acknowledges the real and potential impacts that future PSTEAF diversions have on both the prospect of federal grant dollar reductions and the programmatic impacts you discuss. The Cabinet will continue to work with those parties involved in the budget preparation process to ensure that these concerns are understood.

The Division of Waste Management within the Department for Environmental Protection is evaluating the implementation of the Energy Bill's UST provisions, and information is being gathered to address the feasibility of requiring double-walled tanks or other forms of secondary containment at new UST installations.

I appreciate the EQC's recommendations and involvement in this important process, and look forward to future interaction as we progress towards meeting our mutual goals.

Sincerely,

LaJuana S. Wilcher

Secretary

LSW/rhd

